

...SEPTEMBER 2011 CLIMATE SUMMARY...

SUMMARY FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA AND MONTEREY BAY AREA...

SEPTEMBER 2011 WAS A DRY MONTH WITH NEAR NORMAL TEMPERATURES. PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER...THE REGION HAD EXPERIENCED SEVEN CONSECUTIVE MONTHS OF BELOW NORMAL TEMPERATURES. THAT STRING ENDED IN SEPTEMBER WHEN AVERAGE TEMPERATURES AT MOST CLIMATE STATIONS WERE GENERALLY WITHIN A FEW DEGREES OF THE 30-YEAR NORMAL. THUNDERSTORMS OCCURRED ON A COUPLE OF OCCASIONS DURING SEPTEMBER...BUT THESE THUNDERSTORMS WERE WIDELY SCATTERED AND MOST OF THEM PRODUCED VERY LITTLE RAIN.

TEMPERATURES WERE NEAR NORMAL OR BELOW NORMAL DURING MOST OF THE FIRST HALF OF SEPTEMBER...EXCEPT FOR A BRIEF WARM-UP ON THE 6TH AND 7TH. MORE FREQUENT AND SUSTAINED WARM SPELLS OCCURRED DURING THE SECOND HALF OF THE MONTH. MOST CLIMATE STATIONS POSTED THEIR WARMEST HIGH TEMPERATURE READING OF THE MONTH ON THE WEDNESDAY THE 28TH WHEN 90S WERE COMMON ACROSS THE REGION. THE WARMTH OF THE SECOND HALF OF THE MONTH WAS ENOUGH TO OFFSET THE RELATIVELY COOL FIRST TWO WEEKS. AT MOST INLAND CLIMATE STATIONS AVERAGE MONTHLY HIGH TEMPERATURES WERE ONLY SLIGHTLY ABOVE NORMAL. HOWEVER...SOME INTERIOR EAST BAY VALLEYS SAW GREATER DEPARTURES FROM NORMAL...ON THE ORDER OF 3 TO 5 DEGREES ABOVE THE 30-YEAR NORMAL. AVERAGE MONTHLY HIGH TEMPERATURES NEAR THE COAST...IN SOME NORTH BAY VALLEYS...AND IN THE SALINAS VALLEY WERE GENERALLY A BIT BELOW NORMAL. SANTA CRUZ WAS THE COASTAL LOCATION WITH THE LARGEST NEGATIVE DEPARTURE FROM NORMAL.

THUNDERSTORMS RUMBLING ACROSS OUR REGION ON TWO OCCASIONS DURING SEPTEMBER. THE FIRST THUNDERSTORM EVENT OCCURRED ON FRIDAY AND SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 9TH AND 10TH. A WEAK UPPER LOW DEVELOPED OVER SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ON THE 9TH AND TRIGGERED WIDESPREAD THUNDERSTORM ACTIVITY TO OUR SOUTH AND EAST. A FEW THUNDERSTORMS THAT DEVELOPED OVER THE SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY THAT AFTERNOON DRIFTED TO THE WEST AND ACROSS ALAMEDA AND CONTRA COSTA COUNTIES DURING THE EARLY EVENING HOURS OF THE 9TH. THESE THUNDERSTORMS WERE MOSTLY DRY AND THEY IGNITED FIVE SMALL FIRES IN THE EAST BAY. FORTUNATELY...ALL OF THESE FIRES WERE CONTAINED RELATIVELY QUICKLY. THUNDERSTORMS ALSO DEVELOPED THE NEXT AFTERNOON ON THE 10TH. THE STORMS ON THE 10TH WERE FARTHER TO THE SOUTH OVER SAN BENITO COUNTY AND PRODUCED LOCALIZED WETTING RAINS.

THE SECOND DRY THUNDERSTORM EVENT OCCURRED TWO WEEKS LATER ON FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 23RD. THIS TIME THE TRIGGER WAS AN UPPER TROUGH OFF THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COAST. THUNDERSTORMS DEVELOPED OVER SOUTHEASTERN MONTEREY COUNTY ON THE EVENING OF THE 23RD AND MOVED QUICKLY TO THE NORTHWEST. MOST LIGHTNING STRIKES OCCURRED OVER SOUTHERN MONTEREY COUNTY...BUT AT LEAST ONE STRIKE WAS OBSERVED AS FAR NORTH AS CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA THAT EVENING.

RAINFALL WITH THE SEPTEMBER THUNDERSTORM EVENTS WAS ISOLATED AND LIGHT. THE ONLY OTHER PRECIPITATION EVENT OF THE MONTH OCCURRED ON SUNDAY THE 25TH WHEN A WEAK COLD FRONT MOVED FROM NORTHWEST TO SOUTHEAST ACROSS THE REGION. THE FRONT DISSIPATED AS IT MOVED THROUGH AND RAINFALL AMOUNTS WERE GENERALLY JUST A TRACE TO A FEW

HUNDREDTHS. THE EXCEPTION WAS IN NORTHWEST SONOMA COUNTY WHERE AS MUCH AS A THIRD OF AN INCH FELL.

NEARLY HALF OF ALL CLIMATE STATIONS REPORTED NO MEASURABLE RAINFALL IN SEPTEMBER. AT THOSE LOCATIONS WHERE RAIN DID OCCUR...TOTALS FOR THE MONTH WERE GENERALLY LESS THAN 50 PERCENT OF NORMAL.

...SEPTEMBER REGIONAL TEMPERATURE SUMMARY...

LOCATION	AVG HIGH	NORMAL HIGH	DEPARTURE FROM	AVG LOW	NORMAL LOW	DEPARTURE FROM
			NORMAL			NORMAL

NORTH BAY...

CALISTOGA	89.4	87.9	1.5	50.2	50.2	0.0
HEALDSBURG	85.4	84.9	0.5	52.4	52.7	-0.3
KENTFIELD	81.0	81.2	-0.2	52.1	52.2	-0.1
NAPA AIRPORT	81.4	79.7	1.7	50.8	49.2	1.6
SANTA ROSA	82.6	83.2	-0.6	50.0	51.5	-1.5
SANTA ROSA AP	84.7	83.2	1.5	51.0	49.3	1.7
SONOMA	84.7	84.8	-0.1	51.2	50.5	0.7

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...

HALF MOON BAY	65.2	66.4	-1.2	51.1	49.8	1.3
REDWOOD CITY	81.2	79.7	1.5	55.1	54.0	1.1
SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT	73.7	73.6	0.1	55.6	55.8	-0.2
SAN FRANCISCO DOWNTOWN	69.7	70.2	-0.5	54.9	55.1	-0.2
WOODSIDE	85.6	86.4	-0.8	51.5	49.8	1.7

EAST BAY...

BERKELEY	75.6	74.8	0.8	53.3	53.4	-0.1
CONCORD	88.5	85.3	3.2	58.3	57.0	1.3
CONCORD AIRPORT	87.1	84.1	3.0	56.8	56.1	0.7
FREMONT	80.3	78.3	2.0	56.1	55.5	0.6
HAYWARD AIRPORT	77.9	75.6	2.3	57.6	57.1	0.5
LIVERMORE	89.8	85.5	4.3	55.7	54.9	0.8
LIVERMORE AP	89.4	84.3	5.1	56.2	55.5	0.7
MARTINEZ	84.8	84.4	0.4	50.2	49.9	0.3
MOUNT DIABLO JUNCTION	82.7	81.7	1.0	63.6	57.8	5.8
NEWARK	78.4	77.1	1.3	57.3	57.5	-0.2
OAKLAND	74.6	74.1	0.5	56.9	57.1	-0.2
OAKLAND AIRPORT	75.0	74.6	0.4	53.5	54.4	-0.9

SOUTH BAY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY...

BEN LOMOND	84.9	84.5	0.4	49.6	48.6	1.0
GILROY	86.8	85.5	1.3	54.0	52.8	1.2

MOFFETT FIELD	79.7	77.5	2.2	59.7	57.7	2.0
SAN JOSE	82.5	80.1	2.4	58.3	56.8	1.5
SANTA CRUZ	73.3	76.4	-3.1	53.1	53.0	0.1
WATSONVILLE	71.8	73.6	-1.8	53.9	52.5	1.4
WATSONVILLE AP	73.9	75.1	-1.2	53.7	51.8	1.9

MONTEREY AND SAN BENITO COUNTIES...

KING CITY	82.7	85.5	-2.8	52.3	51.1	1.2
MONTEREY AIRPORT	69.2	69.3	-0.1	53.8	53.1	0.7
SALINAS	72.3	74.0	-1.7	51.6	52.2	-0.6
SALINAS AIRPORT	73.4	74.1	-0.7	55.0	54.3	0.7

...SEPTEMBER REGIONAL PRECIPITATION SUMMARY...

NOTE: ONLY CLIMATE STATIONS WITH MEASURABLE RAINFALL DURING THE MONTH ARE LISTED.

LOCATION	SEPT TOTAL	NORMAL SEPT PRECIP	PERCENT OF NORMAL
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NORTH BAY...

ANGWIN	0.03	0.46	7
MUIR WOODS	0.14	0.36	39
NAPA AIRPORT	0.01	0.32	3
OCCIDENTAL	0.26	0.42	62
SAINT HELENA	0.03	0.28	11
SANTA ROSA	0.01	0.35	3
SONOMA COUNTY AP	0.03	0.35	9

SAN FRANCISCO PENINSULA...

HALF MOON BAY	0.03	0.37	8
PACIFICA	0.02	0.36	6
SAN FRANCISCO AIRPORT	0.01	0.17	6

EAST BAY...

BERKELEY	0.05	0.24	21
CONCORD AIRPORT	0.02	0.16	13
MOUNT DIABLO JUNCTION	0.06	0.28	21

SOUTH BAY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTY...

SANTA CRUZ	0.05	0.27	19
WATSONVILLE AP	0.03	0.23	13

MONTEREY AND SAN BENITO COUNTIES...

KING CITY	0.04	0.15	27
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MONTEREY AIRPORT	0.01	0.20	5
SALINAS	0.02	0.19	11
SALINAS AIRPORT	0.03	0.17	18

...DAILY TEMPERATURE RECORDS FOR SEPTEMBER 2011...

		RECORD MAXIMUM TEMP	PREVIOUS RECORD
9/18	OAKLAND AIRPORT	88	88 IN 2003
9/19	OAKLAND AIRPORT	91	90 IN 1983

...MONTHLY RANKS FOR DOWNTOWN SAN FRANCISCO...

AVERAGE HIGH TEMPERATURE.....69.7.....50TH WARMEST OUT OF 136 YEARS
 AVERAGE LOW TEMPERATURE.....54.9.....51ST COOLEST OUT OF 136 YEARS

...MONTHLY EXTREMES FOR SELECT LOCATIONS...

LOCATION	WARMEST DAY(S)	COOLEST DAY(S)	WETTEST DAY(S)
SANTA ROSA AIRPORT	9/19 9/20 98 DEG	9/17 46 DEG	9/27 0.01 IN
SAN FRANCISCO	9/28 88 DEG	9/06 9/07 51 DEG	N/A
SAN JOSE	9/28 96 DEG	9/17 9/26 53 DEG	N/A
SALINAS AIRPORT	9/28 95 DEG	9/18 50 DEG	9/23 0.02 IN

NOTE: THIS CLIMATOLOGICAL DATA IS PRELIMINARY. FOR OFFICIAL
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 CLIMATIC DATA CENTER AT 828-271-4800 OR <http://www.ncdc.noaa.gov>.
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